The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

June 2019

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305.461.2425 (24 hrs)

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Step Six: Defects and Short Comings A lot of Credibility Leads to Integrity

Sometimes the wording used in The Big Book and in The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions mean something different to individuals often based on how they evolved with respect to Religion, Agnosticism, Atheism and other developmental histories. This may be confusing to many of us, especially Step Six in the 12X12 as it talks of God removing these defects of character the way God removed the obsession to drink.

In simple terms I try to word the Step Six process in a way anyone can understand it and my goal is not to offend anyone by being over simplistic but just about all of our actions and behaviors stem from our thinking and if our thinking is of a fearful nature, we are bound to make bad decisions in an effort to defend ourselves. The defects we identify in the step four inventory, disclose in step five and address in step six, are biproducts of our fears and insecurities and are of a spiritual nature as in our inner self.

The shortcomings we address in step seven are of a material nature (actions and behaviors) that result from those fears and insecurities. If, in the program, we discover a defect of character and address it properly the short coming diminishes and becomes irrelevant. A simpler way I try to describe this process is as follows: Suppose you purchased a new car and drove off the lot and as you reached the first stop sign you hit the brakes, the car slowed down but did not stop as it should and drifted out into the intersection.

You then returned to the car lot and explained what happened, they checked it out and discovered that the wrong brakes were installed at the factory. They agreed to correct the mistake. This time when you drove away and approached the stop sign the car stopped as it was supposed to, and it also stopped at every other stop sign or red light. Once the defect was identified and corrected, the short coming went away. I look at defects as the unseen part of our makeup such as: thoughts, motives, fears, feelings, ego, conscience, and so on. I look at shortcomings as the results of those inner thoughts and feelings such as: gossip, lying, verbal abuse, cheating, theft, neglect, and so on. In step four we identified our defects of character (fear and Insecurity) and in step five we owned and exposed them.

In Step Six and Seven we start to replace our selfish and shameful thoughts and motives with unselfish habits and deeds. There's no need to overcomplicate the process. As we begin to stay on the unselfish side of the behavioral ledger, we begin to establish a new track record and if all our motives are of an unselfish spirit, we start to establish some credibility, which, in time, leads to integrity. If individuals employ the dynamics, I described in Step Six and Seven, he/she will be a different person, in Spirit, when they reach the ninth step and it will make it much easier to make amends backed up by a mountain of integrity.

(Cont. on page 7)

"The Front Door of A.A."

Bill W. said: "Let us warmly support Intergroup"

Bill W. helped write an Intergroup pamphlet, which was published by the Intergroup Committee of New Jersey in March, 1949. On the back page of the pamphlet, Bill wrote:

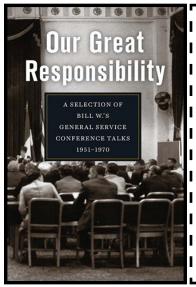
"Every A.A. member wants every alcoholic in the world to have the chance that he has had. Every A.A. member wants unity for our movement. Every A.A. member wants the good opinion of medicine, religion and the general public. We know we must have these things or the new man may never get his chance."

"The Intergroup associations are the best insurance we can have that our life lines to the hundreds of thousands yet to come will never break or tangle. Let us always be generous. Let us warmly support Intergroup."

"Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."

Step Six (Cont. from page 1)

The steps of the program are numbered in order, for a reason and if a person is struggling with one of these steps it might be wise to backup and be sure that they didn't skimp on an earlier step or leave out something important. If an Alcoholic has a desire to live a happy and useful life, the steps of the program are a pathway to achieve that goal provided they stick with the plan. Not everything will go our way in the beginning but, if we persist, in time things will go exceptionally well. In the words or Preacher Roe: "Sometimes you eat the Bear, Sometimes the Bear eats you". I say, "Perseverance will always eat the Bear"!



"Our Great Responsibility"

New Publication

A selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference talks, 1951 – 1970. Timeless & timely, I these 16 selected talks give fresh perspectives on the A.A. Fellowship in our co-founder's own words.

BOOK ON SALE NOW! at your INTERGROUP OFFICE

in English & Spanish! **********

2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
Registration, Housing, and Transportation
International Convention - Love and Tolerance is Our Code
Detroit 2020

In less than two years — July 2-5, 2020 — the International Convention will celebrate A.A.'s 85th Anniversary in Detroit, Michigan. With a theme of "Love and Tolerance Is Our Code," A.A.s from around the world will converge on Detroit to celebrate sobriety and to share experience, strength and hope in meetings, panels and workshops at the Cobo Center, the Ford Field stadium and at other locations throughout the friendly city. Members of the Fellowship are now gearing up for this wonderful event, and the General Service Office is beginning to receive inquiries.

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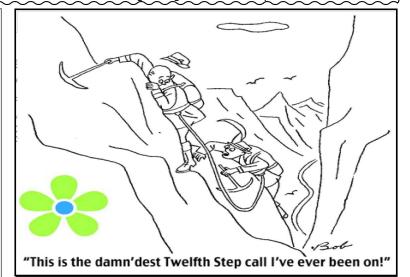
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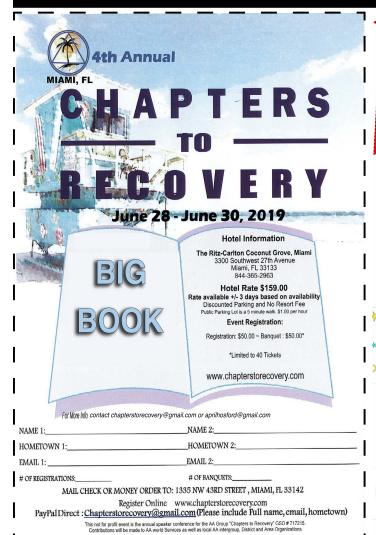
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6th STEP

ABUNDANCE EXCESSIVE MASQUERADE
AFFIRMATIVE EXULT MISERY
ASSASSINATION GLARING OBSESSION
BLINDLY HAZARDOUS RUINOUS
DRIVES INSTINCTUAL VANISHED







WEST MIAMI GROUP

ANIVERSARY - POTLUCK 60 years!

5:30pm to 6:30pm - Dinner

Followed by:

Guest Speaker Meeting

@ 7:00pm

SUNDAY
JUNE 23rd, 2019

Join Us For Great Food, Fun & Fellowship!







HARMONY ROOM

7221 SW 24th St. # 205 - Miami - 33155 - 305.261.3725

THE JUDGE AND THE ALCOHOLIC

THIS story of an unpredictable alcoholic is based upon the trials and tribulations of a judge and a hopeless alcoholic. Tom was a well-known character among police circles. Every Saturday night he was picked up by the police nd poured into dial for drunkenness. Every Monday morning he was given a stiff fine and a tongue lashing by the judge. It became a regular weekly habit with him and his case was always first on the docket. The judge really tried to help Tom. Nothing worked. Tom was allergic to Saturday nights and the poor fellow just couldn't stay sober. Finally, in desperation, the judge sentenced him to three months in prison in the hope of curing him of alcoholism. This time Tom stayed sober for three months. He had to. At the end of that time he was given his freedom.

The following Saturday night he was drunk again and on Monday morning he faced the judge for about the 100th time. The judge said, "Tom, I'm going to give you one more chance. I'm going to sentence you to my Sunday School class. I want you to be there every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock until further notice." For the first time in his drinking career Tom stayed sober on Saturday night. On Sunday morning he sat in the classroom among strangers, a picture of fear, remorse and self pity.

The lesson was on the subject of temperance, but the teacher's language was anything but temperate. He condemned all drunks as hopeless sinners and a disgrace to Christianity. Within an hour after the close of that service Tom got drunk and left town and the judge breathed a sigh of relief. He never heard from Tom again and he concluded that the poor fellow had drunk himself to death.

Alcohol is a treacherous enemy. It is no respecter of persons or their station in life. We never know who the next victim might be. Not long ago A.A. received a frantic call for help. It was from a man who had taken a terrific beating from alcohol. All his friends had deserted him. He was penniless and he had lost all hope for himself. As a last resort he decided to call on A.A. for help. The man who answered that call had a deep understanding of the alcoholic and his problem. He himself had once been a hopeless drunk and he had been shown the way back to sobriety by others who had understood his problem.

He had come to help the man who once tried to help him. The victim was none other than the former judge, and the man who made that 12th Step call was Tom, the former hopeless alcoholic.

A.Y. \langle

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GRUPO AMISTAD 1990 - 2019

29 Aniversario Semana de Compartimiento Del 3 de Junio al 8 de Junio

8:00 a 10:00pm

Sesion Publica 9 de Junio a la 1:00pm

Logia Masonica 124 NW 15th Ave. Miami 33125

GRUPO QUINTO PASO 2001-2019

18 Aniversario

Semana de Compartimiento Del 3 de Junio al 8 de Junio

Sesion Publica 9 de Junio de 2:00pm a 5:00pm

Jorge Mas Canosa Youth Center 250 SW 114th Ave, Miami - 33174

GRUPO 10 DE JUNIO 2011 - 2019 **8vo Aniversario**

Semana de Compartimiento Del 8 de Junio al 14 de Junio a las 8:00pm

Sesion Publica 15 de Junio a las 4:00pm

Club de la Policia 2300 NW 14th St. - Miami, FL 33125

NCION HISPANA DE ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y CANADA SEDE ATLANTA, GEORGIA AGOSTO 30, 31 Y SEPTIEMBRE 1, 2019

UN MILLON DE VOCES UN SOLO MENSAJE

RESERVACIONES 1(800) 468-3571.



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UNMILLONDEVOCESUNSOLOMENSAJE@GMAIL.COM

Sexto Paso

"Estuvimos enteramente dispuestos a dejar que Dios nos liberase de nuestros defectos."

Sexta Gradicion

Convención Internacional - Detroit, Michigan Julio 2 al 5 de 2020

Para el otoño de 2019, se dispondrá de información sobre la inscripción para la Convención y reservaciones en hoteles. Se proporci nará a la información necesaria en los paquetes de inscripción, que también estarán disponibles en otoño de 2019. El paquete incluirá una lista de números telefónicos a que llamar

para informarse en concreto sobre el alojamiento, el programa, etc. Se faciliará la información por

correo postal a los grupos, oficinas y contactos de A.A. alrededor del mundo, así como por el sitio web.



FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

Yes, I want to participate in the Faithful Fiver Club!

Contribution information:	Date:			
Amount:	Monthly:	Quarterly:	Annually:	5
I am a new Member:			\$3,000 per year) Returning Member:	
Check Enclosed:	Name:	Address: _		
City:	State:	Zip Code:	Tel: <u>(</u>)	
Yes, I would For Credit Card recurring	like my name to be adde g contribution informa	d in "The Messenger." ation please call the office	No, I would like to remark: 305.461.2425	ain anonymous

"Each day that your Group participates in the work of our local A.A. services, whether through those who "Contribute their Time" or Group Contributions, or Sobriety Contributions, something wonderful happens in A.A. When a newcomer calls us and finds your meeting, it is indeed a miracle. Your contributions show that you care about the services we as a fellowship provide and continued hope for the newcomer that reaches out for help. Words cannot fully express the deep gratitude about the energy that your A.A. Group devotes into carrying the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic.'

......

FAITHFUL FIVER FRIENDS are fellow A.A. members who contribute \$5.00 a month to the Intergroup Office as an act of gratitude. Their generosity help us to carry the message of A.A. to the still sick and suffering alcoholics throughout the year! THANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL FIVER'S....Your contributions are very much appreciated. **Adam M., 5 Anonymous.**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

GS DISTRICT 10 Monthly Business Meeting

GS DISTRICT 10 Corrections Committee

Miami Bid for FCYPAA

2nd Sunday of the month @ 1:30pm at the Lambda Miami Dade Club 28 NE 54th St. Miami, FL 33137

Archives Committee

Remote Communities

Meetings at the CORAL ROOM

1100 Ponce de Leon, CG 305.446.9558 ********

GS DISTRICT 10 Grapevine Committe

1st Sunday of the month @ 2:00pm

GS DISTRICT 10 PI/CPC

4th Saturday of the month @ 3:00pm

GS DISTRICT 10 Literature Committee

2nd Tuesday of the month @ 7:00pm

Treatment Committe

3rd Saturday of the Month @ 3:00pm

For more information go to www.district10miami.org

LETTING GO AND LETTING GOD (Steps 6 & 7)

Directly after sharing Step Five with my sponsor, Carl, I realized that I desperately needed to become willing to allow God remove whatever defects and shortcomings harmful to my sobriety. I notice the Big Book tells us "then" not i"later" to do Step Six! (P. 76) This could



Inot be superficial, as many of my prayers had been, but must spring from my innermost self. I couldn't deny any of them because there they were written right out in front of me and my watchful sponsor, and of course God! Page 76 also suggests that if necessary: "We ask God to help us become willing."

However, that was not necessary for me in my state of fear and despair. We are told to do Step Seven "when ready," and I was certainly just that! Carl helped me with the prayer by asking me direct questions: Was I willing that God have all of me, good and bad? (Yes!). Was I now ready to allow God remove from me every single defect of character? (Yes!). Then, I was told to pray that God provide strength, as I go out from here, to do His bidding. (I did!) We had then completed Step Seven.

It was pointed out that the "Amen" at the end of the Step Seven Prayer had great significance—"Amen is generally uttered at the end of a prayer or hymn, meaning 'so be it." But there was no "Amen" at the ending of the Third Step Prayer, or in the many Fourth step Prayers or the Fifth and Sixth Step Prayers! Why? Because we asked in Step Three to be relieved of the bondage of self –but we didn't even know what that bondage consisted of until we got to Step Seven. Only then, did we know what to ask for. Only then could we meaningfully say "Amen"

Then, as a grand finale, Carl burned all my paperwork up in front of my eyes and said: "Bob. There goes your past up in smoke. You have become a brand-new different person than you were yesterday! You can now begin to be rid of the guilt of your past life. But, if you take just one shot of whisky, you go right back where you started. I haven't yet!

INTERGROUP CONTACT LIST

aamiamidade.org

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Vice-Chair

Raz S.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Yvonne N.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Tom D.

Tamara K.

Barry G.

Ian S.

Trustees

Askia K.

Mary S.

Founder's Day Picnic

Tom L.

Intergroup Banquet

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Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach

Joe C.

Public Information

OPEN POSITION

Twelve Step Relay

Barry G.

Big Service Breakfast

Kevin W. (Co-chair)

General Service Liaison

Tamara K.

Spanish Intergroup

OPEN POSITION

Webmaster

Office

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www.district10miami.org

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Treasurer

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Registrar

Sara G.

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"THE MESSENGER"

Published Monthly by

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NOTICES

Notices published in "The Messenger" are taken from information submitted to the Miami-Dade Intergroup Office Information is based on what is current at the time of printing.

If your group discontinues a meeting or changes it's schedule time, please notify Intergroup as soon as possible at (305) 461-2425

Articles and opinions expressed herein not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Further endorsements, opposing views and rebuttals to articles published are also welcomed. Also, please tell us how we can improve.

Contributions to "THE MESSENGER"

will be gratefully accepted.
A sign up form is on the back cover.

E-mail the Editor at: aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Please make checks payable to: MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

CONCEPT SIX

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

APRIL

PRIMARY PURPOSE Adrienne 2

Eddie 4 Mary Jo 5

Bobby 5 Ralph 6 Selena 7 Deya 8

Patrick 10 Herb 14 Joe 24 Pete 27 Sandee 28 John 32

SABAL PALM

Geordan G. 1 Jorge S. 3

Richard A. 3

Terry F. 4 JoJo L. 5

Ron Y. 5 Ed W. 5 Diana M. 7

Rene O. 10 Harry C. 15

Bryan L. 16

Steve R. 17 Frank L. 17

Ana Maria L. 20 Sergio F. 23

Joanne K. 26 Pamela M. 36

MAY

HOMESTEAD

Ron C. 3 Veronica 5 Henry S. 10 Bob M. 11 George C 11 Ron B. 12 Pat M. 13 Gus B. 25 Herbert P. 39 Ron H 42

SOUTH DIXIE

Jim S. 5 Val H. 15 Beverly 29 Debbie 33

JUNE

LITTLE RIVER **GROUP**

Robert 3 Thomas 5 Maria 7

Jimmy 10 David 10

Andrew 17 Gary 20 Robert 23

Kathy 24



. **SOUTH DADE**

Curtis 34

Todd S. 3 Michelle 4 Jaime SN. 7 Henry 10 Irwin L. 14 Mary Q. 20 Roxanne M. 21 Victor C. 24 Bonnie N. 27 Mickey B. 33 Chuck C. 46

PRIMARY PURPOSE

Miguel 1 Kurtis 1 Pepe 1 Sabrina 1 Guillermo 2 Rolando 5 Anna 7 David 7

MEETINGS IN RUSSIAN

Do you know any Russian-speaking friend, who has drinking problems? Please invite them to our new 7pm Sunday Russian-speaking Alcoholics Anonymous meeting.



12STEPHOUSE

www.russianaa.com russianaa.florida@gmail.com

Hannah T. 2 Billy M. 8 Olivia C. 3 Keila 9 Robert J. 3 Marye B. 11 Robert P. 4 Brian M. 5

SOBER WAY OUT

Allie S. 15 Lisa P. 26 Veronica D. 5

Joel B. 8

Frederic R. 30



Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues

- My Spiritual Awakening (due July 20)
- Getting Through Tough Times in Sobriety (due Aug 20)

www.aagrapevine.org/contribute

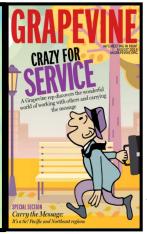
THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE....

It is with great sadness that we announce the recent passing of a very dear friend of A.A.

BIKER JUAN

He will always be remembered by many of us. Our most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

You will be greatly missed.....



Brickell Group/3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm Coral Gables Group/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm Good Morning Group/3rd Friday @11:00am Happy 1060 Group/3rd Sunday @ 11:45am Happy Hour Group/ 3rd Thursday @ 6:35pm Homestead Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm Lincoln Road YP/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm Little River Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm Miami Young People/3rd Saturday @ 7:00pm New Beginner's # 2/2nd Thursday @ 7:30pm Night Owl Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm North Miami Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:15pm Palmetto Bay/3rd Wednesday @ 6:35pm Primary Purpose/Last Wednesday @ 6:45pm Quinto Paso/1st Monday @ 7:00pm Sabal Palm/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm Sober Way Out/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm Something Happens/1st Saturday @ 10:00am South Dade Group/3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm South Dixie Group/2nd Sunday @ 12:15pm Sunset Group/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm We Stopped in Time/1st Monday @ 9:35pm Young, Sober &Free/Last Sunday @ 8:05pm

Group Conscience/Business/Service Meetings

Group Anniversaries

Almeria Group/Last Tuesday @ 7:30pm Coral Gables Group/Last Monday @ 8:00pm Grupo Central/Last Sunday @ 1:00pm Good Morning Group/Last Friday @ 10:00am Happy 1060 Group/Last Sunday @ 10:45am Happy Hour Group/Last Friday @ 5:30pm Homestead Group/Last Thursday @ 8:30pm Key Biscayne Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Killian Pines Group/Last Friday @ 8:00pm Lincoln Road YP/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm Little River Group/Last Wednesday @ 8:30pm Miami Springs Group/Last Monday @ 7:30pm Miami Young People/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm North Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Palmetto Bay Group/Last Saturday @ 5:30pm Plymouth Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:00pm Primary Purpose/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm Sabal Palm Group/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm Shamrock Group/Last Tuesday @ 8:30pm Sober Way Out/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Something Happens/Last Saturday @ 9:00am South Dade Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm South Dixie Group/Last Saturday @ 7:30pm Sunset Group/Last Friday @ 7:30pm West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm We Stopped in Time/Last Monday Young, Sober and Free/Last Sunday

LOOKING FOR **MEETINGS?**

Learn more at: www.meetingguide.org



Here is the icon to look for...

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Please make checks payable to: MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP c/o The Messenger

Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	

Please note: When you mail in this form, feel free to add something you would like to share with the fellowship (a thought, a story, a joke or something you heard at a meeting.)

HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!!!

